

Dieu, Martin

From: Kasman, Mark
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 4:22 PM
To: Nishida, Jane
Cc: Dieu, Martin; Stewart, Lakita; Almodovar, Lisa; Teel, Pam
Subject: Briefing Note for Administrator Pruitt Meeting with Stephen Harper
Attachments: Adm Pruitt Briefing Doc_Former Canada PM Harper.final.docx

Jane,

For your review.

Mark

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U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
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Briefing Document for Administrator Pruitt

**MEETING WITH STEPHEN HARPER,
FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA**

DATE: March 27, 2017

LOCATION: Administrator's Office

MEETING TIME: 4:30 – 5:00 PM

I. PURPOSE and BACKGROUND

YOU will be meeting with the former Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper. Harper is a former conservative prime minister of Canada and proposed this meeting.

Under the Harper Administration (2006-2015), EPA cooperated with its Canadian counterpart, then called Environment Canada, under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA), the Air Quality Agreement, and the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation, among other U.S.-Canada agreements.

The GLWQA, first signed in 1972 and amended in 1983 and 1987, was updated in 2012 to enhance water quality programs that ensure the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Great Lakes by facilitating actions on threats to water quality in the lakes and to strengthen measures to anticipate and prevent ecological harm. This included new provisions to address aquatic invasive species, habitat degradation and the effects of climate change, and support continued work on existing threats to people's health and the environment in the Great Lakes Basin such as harmful algae, toxic chemicals, and discharges from vessels.

II. KEY ASKS OR MESSAGES

- Thank Mr. Harper for his visit and acknowledge his leadership of the Canadian government for nine years.

III. PARTICIPANTS

External Attendees

- Stephen Harper, former Prime Minister of Canada
- Jeremy Hunt
- Shuvaloy Majumdar

EPA Staff

- YOU
- Jane Nishida, OITA
- Mark Kasman, OITA

IV. AGENDA: This is a meet and greet and there is no set agenda for the meeting.

V. PRESS: This is a closed meeting with no press.

VI. ATTACHMENTS

Biography for Stephen Harper
Biography for Jeremy Hunt
Biography for Shuvaloy Majumdar

EPA Staff Contact: Pam Teel, Office of International and Tribal Affairs, 202-564-6424

Biography – The Right Honorable Stephen Harper

Canadian Conservative Party leader Stephen Harper served as prime minister of Canada from 2006 to 2015.

Synopsis

Born in Toronto in 1959, Stephen Harper earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in economics at the University of Calgary. Following multiple terms in the House of Commons, he became prime minister of Canada in 2006. Harper was a proponent of lower taxes and an enlarged military, his standing strengthened when his Conservative Party earned a majority in the 2011 federal election. In 2015 Harper tenure as prime minister came to an end when he was defeated by Liberal candidate Justin Trudeau.



Early Life

Following his High School graduation in 1978, Harper moved to Alberta and worked in the petroleum industry for three years before attending the University of Calgary, where he received both a bachelor's degree (1985) and a master's degree (1991) in economics. During this period, he also began his political career, working as the executive assistant to Calgary's Progressive Conservative MP Jim Hawkes. By 1986, however, Harper had become disillusioned with the political landscape, in large part due to the region's seemingly diminished importance in relation to national affairs. That year, he left Hawkes's side, and the following year he was involved in the founding of a new political party to address his and others' concerns, the socially conservative Reform Party of Canada.

Political Rise

With a career focused on politics and public policy analysis, Harper moved up the ranks of the Reform Party, and in 1993, he was elected to the Canadian House of Commons as its candidate. That same year he married Laureen Teskey, with whom he has two children, Benjamin and Rachel.

After a falling out with Reform leader Preston Manning, Harper decided not to seek reelection in the 1997 race, and he eventually took the reins of the National Citizens Coalition, a right-wing lobbyist group. The Coalition was based on a philosophical foundation of low taxes and free-market capitalism, and also opposed the Canadian government's response to the separatist movement in Quebec. In the face of a favorable political landscape, Harper resigned as president of the coalition in the summer of 2001 and soon declared his candidacy to lead the Canadian Alliance Party, the successor to the Reform Party.

Victory in the winter election ensued, and in early 2002, Harper headed to Parliament under the Alliance Party banner. Just a few years later, the political winds had shifted again, and the Alliance Party merged with the Progressive Conservative Party to form the new Conservative Party, of which Harper took the leadership position in 2004.

Prime Minister Harper

As a Conservative candidate, and with a minority government, Harper was sworn in as Canada's 22nd prime minister in February 2006, bringing to an end a 13-year liberal government. He proved to be a

staunch proponent of laissez-faire capitalism, smaller government and social conservatism. The neoconservative mindset of the Harper administration also focused on reducing taxes, enlarging the military and securing Arctic waters for their energy resources is credited with having steered the Canadian economy through the 2008 financial crisis. In foreign affairs, Harper's government was strongly pro-Israel and launched Canada's combat mission in Afghanistan, while at home it took a more hard-line approach to crime and significantly increased funding for the prison system.

In March 2011, Harper's administration was found to be in contempt of Parliament for having withheld financial information related to its activities, and a general election was called for May 2. However, Harper came out the other side with a majority government (166 seats), his position more secure than before the forced election. Following this endorsement, Harper's government continued with its efforts to reduce government and spending and also introduced a controversial bill that allowed for greater domestic surveillance amidst growing concerns about terrorism. It also backed away from the Kyoto Protocol, choosing instead to implement more relaxed climate-change policies that drew harsh criticism from environmental groups.

Following the election that brought current Prime Minister Justin Trudeau into office, Harper returned to Ottawa as a Conservative backbencher. He announced in May 2016 his plan to resign his seat in the House of Commons before the fall session of parliament. In December 2015, he set up Harper & Associates Consulting Inc. with Jeremy Hunt and Ray Novak.

Bio for Jeremy Hunt

Prior to co-founding Harper & Associates, Mr. Hunt served as a Director to Canada's 22nd Prime Minister, Stephen Harper. In this capacity, he oversaw all operational elements of the office including the management of the Prime Minister's Executive Office, Tour and International Diplomacy and Business Outreach. Mr. Hunt has extensive international experience having structured and executed Prime Ministerial diplomatic and trade missions to dozens of countries all around the world.

In 2015, Mr. Hunt was awarded the Erebus Medal by the Royal Canadian Geographic Society in recognition of his contribution to the Canadian Government's discovery of Sir John Franklin's HMS Erebus, a British Royal Navy vessel that had been missing in Canada's Arctic waters since the 1840s.

Mr. Hunt received an undergraduate degree in Political Science at Carleton University and a MBA from the Ivey Business School at Western University. He enjoys waterskiing, skiing and baseball.

Bio for Shuvaloy Majumdar

Shuvaloy Majumdar currently holds concurrent senior fellowships at foreign policy institutes in Ottawa, Washington, DC, and New Delhi. In Ottawa, he is a Munk Senior Fellow at the Macdonald Laurier Institute, leading the development of a Centre for Advancing Canada's Interests Abroad. As a member of the executive team at Harper & Associates, Shuvaloy works with Canada's 22nd prime minister, the Rt Hon Stephen Harper, in establishing their international business consultancy.

Shuvaloy brings experience in global affairs at its highest levels, and in the foreign policy issues formative to the last decade. In Ottawa, between 2011 and 2015, he served as the policy director to successive Canadian foreign ministers, as well as senior policy advisor to its minister for international

development, assisting the prime minister and his cabinet navigate key issues of international security and the global economy.

Shuvaloy was based in Iraq and Afghanistan from 2006 to 2010, where he led the International Republican Institute (IRI), a Washington-based nonpartisan organization chaired by US Senator John McCain dedicated to advancing democratic development. He was responsible for a broad range of strategic initiatives designed to engage local and national leaders, to assess public opinion through extensive research, and to strengthen independent media and communications. This overseas experience complemented his co-founding of an anti-human trafficking organization in Southeast Asia between 2000 and 2003, for which he was recognized with the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal.

Bridging practice with theory, he was a visiting foreign policy scholar at the University of British Columbia's Liu Institute for Global Studies from 2010 to 2012. His research areas included counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism, empowering Arab democrats against extremism, social media and disruptive technology, and US foreign policy in the Middle East and Asia. Shuvaloy has also helped to inform national discourse in these areas through senior roles in national campaigns, and in helping establish the Calgary-based Manning Centre for Building Democracy.

